

REMARKS

The Office Action in the above-identified application has been carefully considered and this amendment has been presented to place this application in condition for allowance.

Accordingly, reexamination and reconsideration of this application are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-58 are in the present application. It is submitted that these claims were patentably distinct over the prior art cited by the Examiner, and that these claims were in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112. The changes to the claims, as presented herein, are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. sections 101, 102, 103 or 112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

Claims 1, 2, 4-5, 30-31 and 33-34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kanota et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,418,853) in view of Thompson et al. (U.S. Patent 4,716,588). Claims 3 and 32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kanota in view of Thompson and Okamoto et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,627,655). Claims 6, 7, 35 and 36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kanota in view of Thompson and Dieterich (U.S. Patent No. 4,308,577). Claims 8 and 37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kanota in view of Thompson and Horton et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,945,563). Claims 9 and 38 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kanota in view of Thompson, Kamitake (U.S. Patent No. 4,751,732), and Saito (U.S. Patent No. 5,504,933). Claims 10 and 39 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kanota in view of Thompson, Kamitake, Saito and Yamauchi (U.S.

Patent No. 5,668,873). Claims 11-15, 22, 24-26, 40-44, 51 and 53-55 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kanota in view of Thompson, Ryan (U.S. Patent No. 4,631,603), and Ryan (U.S. Patent No. 4,695,901). Claims 16-18, 23, 45-47 and 52 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kanota, in view of Thompson, Ryan '603, Ryan '901, and further in view of Ryan (U.S. Patent No. 4,577,216). Claims 19, 27, 48 and 56 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kanota in view of Thompson, Ryan '603, Ryan '901, and further in view of Horton. Claims 20, 28, 49 and 57 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kanota in view of Thompson, Ryan '603, Ryan '901, Kamitake, and Saito. Claims 21, 29, 50 and 58 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kanota in view of Thompson, Ryan '603, Ryan '901, Kamitake, Saito, and further in view of Yamauchi (U.S. Patent No. 5,668,873).

However, the present invention includes a copy control feature to prevent unauthorized copying of video signals in either digital or both digital and analog form. (Specification pages 3-4) Each of the independent claims (1, 11, 22, 30, 40, and 51) has been amended to recite "said copy management information including an indicator of whether copying of only digital data is inhibited or copying of both digital data and analog signals is inhibited." (Claims 1, 11, 22, 30, 40, and 51) These limitations are supported throughout the specification; for example, at page 31, lines 9-14. Applicants believe none of the references cited by the Examiner in rejecting the claims teaches an equivalent limitation of copy management information for inhibiting copying of digital or digital and analog signals.

Accordingly, for at least this reason, any combination of Kanota, Thompson, Okamoto, Dieterich, Horton, Kamitake, Saito, Yamauchi, Ryan '603, Ryan '901 and Ryan '216 fails to obviate the present invention and the rejected claims should now be allowed.

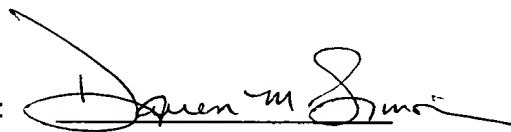
In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application as now presented is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable reconsideration of the application are respectfully requested.

No additional fees are anticipated for the filing of this amendment, but if such are required, the Examiner is hereby authorized to charge any insufficient fees or credit any overpayment associated with the above-identified application to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

If any issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions, he/she is invited to call the undersigned at the telephone number provided below. The Examiner's consideration of this matter is gratefully acknowledged.

Respectfully submitted,
FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP

By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Darren M. Simon", is written over a horizontal line.

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